1.LIFE

Q1) What answer did the stars give to the wind?

Ans: The stars answered that when there was no moon, it seemed to them as if they were released from captivity; because in the absence of moon they brightened up and every star felt that it had some power. They further said that the life of dependence was no life but to shine with one's own brightness was life to them.

Q2) What was the moon's reply to the wind?

Ans: The moon was very sad and called herself a lifeless entity because of the borrowed light. The moon blamed the borrowed light for its dark spots and said that it was like a shroud enveloping her dead body. The moon further compared her life with the laughter of a widow i. e the moon was very
distressed and said that she was the child of ocean i.e her life was full of tears.

Q3) What was the ocean's response?

Ans: On hearing the question posed by the wind, the ocean gave a careful thought to it and said that his ideas of life was to realize one's limits and maintain one's dignity. The ocean further added that for him, life was to contain all bitter experiences, taking them as pearls and rubies. For him, life was not to produce pearls and create clouds full of rain and thus called his life, a life of penance or renunciation.

Q4) What was the earth's reply to the question put forth to her by the wind?

Ans: The earth replied that for her, life was love. The earth said that the sprouts springing from her produced flowers and fruits. She further added that she stores the water that she gets from the clouds, rivers and streams and distributes among the thirsty. Thus, for her this giving and taking was true life.

Q5) What was the little girl doing when the wind saw her?

Ans: The little girl was lighting new lamps with the lamp that was alight, when the wind saw her.

Q6) Why was the wind impressed by the little girl?

Ans: When the wind enquired about the unlighted lamps, the girl said that they had no oil in them and there was no point in lighting them. The girl further said that she was lighting only those who yearned to awake and those who were longing to be lighted and said that she loved this play of life.
Hearing this, the wind got impressed by the little girl.

Q7) Why did the wind join the little girl?

Ans: The wind was so much delighted that she forgot herself and joined the little girl.

2. PORUS AND HIS ELEPHANTS

Central Idea: - The poem has been written by “MARRY DOBSON”. The poem is in the form of ballad (a poem or a song narrating a story in short stanzas)and highlights exemplary loyalty and faithfulness of an animal towards his master. The poet emphasizes that the animals can also express their emotions by crying and gasping just as human do by expressing themselves in words.

SUMMARY

The poem “PORUS AND HIS ELEPHANTS” is written in the form of ballad by Marry Dobson. In this ballad, poet narrates a story of a king and his elephant. It is a story of king Porus who went to fight against the army of Alexander the Great, in order to defend his nation. King Porus was on his elephant, fighting a fierce battle against his enemies. Suddenly the king got wounded and fell down. The poet calls the elephant faithful beast as he played a gallant part in protecting his king against the attack of his enemies, stood as a wall and took all the arrows on itself and then lifted him against to a safe corner. In the end, the poet says that these animals may seem dumb to us but even they can love and show their feelings by crying and panting. King Porus was saved but his elephant died of its wounds. This story of the animals bravery and faithfulness became a legend for the people to remember.

Q1) How did the elephant saved the life of porus?

Ans: The elephant saved the life of Porus by sacrificing his life. He bravely fought against the Greek enemies and received all the wounds and injuries on itself, not allowing them to harm his master anymore.

Q2) What does the poet mean by : Ah! These dumb things that cry and pant, they too can love, for God made them so”.

Ans: The poet explains in these lines that animals are dumb creatures but they too possess emotions like human beings. They love and are being loved. These

animals express their love by crying and gasping just as humans do by expressing themselves in words.

Q3) What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

Ans: The rhyme scheme of poem is abab.

Q4) The poem reflects the faithfulness of an elephant towards his master. Explain?

Ans: This is a poem in which an elephant gives its life to save the life of its master. While king Porus was fighting on his elephant, it gave him strong support from beneath. When the king got wounded, the elephant stood over him & protected him against every harm. This animal sacrificed his life for his master and became an example of faithfulness.

3. ACHILLES

Q1) How was the Rose – Beetle man dressed?

Ans: Rose-Beetle man’s dress was fantastic. On his head was a wide hat. His shirt and a startling blue satin cravat was worn round his neck. The pockets of his coat were bulged. His patched trousers drooped over a pair of leather shoes with upturned toes.
Q2) How do we know that the Rose- beetle man cared well for his pets?

Ans: When Rose-beetle man undid a small sack of his shoulders, half a dozen tortoise tumbled out into the dusty road. Their shells had been polished with oil and he had decorated their front legs with little red bows. All this showed that he cared well for his pets.

Q3) What made the narrator select one particular tortoise from among the other animals?

Ans: When the narrator watched tortoise he was fascinated. The one that particularly took his fancy was the one with a shell of the size of a teacup. It seemed brighter than the others. Its eyes were bright and its walk was alert. All this made narrator to select this tortoise from among the other animals.

Q4) How did Achilies enjoy eating strawberries?

Ans: The fruit that Achillies liked the best was the wild strawberries. He would become hysterical at the mere sight of them. He would easily swallow the small sized strawberries, but if he was given a big one, he would grab it to a quite spot among the flower beds, where he would eat it at leisure.

Q5) How were Roger and Achillies Rivals?

Ans: Rager and Achillies were rivals because both of them were fond of grapes.

Q6) Why did Achillies find Roger irritating?

Ans: Achilles was very fond of grapes. When he ate grapes, the juice would run through his chin, and Roger would lie watching his mouth dropping saliva. Roger would creep upto Achilles and lick him vigorously to get the grape juice which irritated Achilles.

Q7) How did Roger feel at Achilles' funeral?

Ans: Roger felt very happy at Achille's funeral as the dog was wagging his tail through out the burial service.

Q8) The family wandered about the olive-groves, shouting 'Achilles….strawberries, Achilles…. At length , we found him.

a) How did Achilles escaped?

Ans: Achilles had escaped because the garden gate was left accidently open.

b) Explain why the family shouted 'strawberries' during their search.

Ans: The family shouted strawberries during their search because it was the fruit that Achilles liked the best. He used to become hysterical at the mere sight of them.

c) Where did the family finally find Achilles? What happened to him?

Ans: The family finally found Achilles dead in the well. He had fallen into the well, the wall of which had long since disintegrated.

Q9) There are many instances of humour in the story. Pick out any two of them.

Ans: Achilles is the story full of humour and fun. The character of Rose-beetle man is all the more humorous. His dress was fantastic which added to his funny appearance. Another humorous incident in the story is the licking of Achilles (the tortoise) by the dog (Roger) for the juice of grapes that dribbled down from his mouth.